

committees of jurisdiction. These actions were instrumental in the Government Accounting Office, the Congressional Research Service, and the Administration's recognition of the need Perkins County has for safe water. Last Congress, this legislation passed unanimously out of both the House and Senate with amendments. Unfortunately, the amended legislation was not taken up in the final days of the last Congress.

Given the progress achieved on the Perkins County Rural Water System during the last Congress, I am hopeful this body can move forward with this vital initiative for South Dakota.

We all recognize the water needs the people of Perkins County have. It is time for Congress to move beyond looking at only the symptoms of poor drinking water and move forward with the solution this bill provides. Supporting the legislation authorizing the construction of the Perkins County Rural Water System embodies not only the commitment to support initiatives such as the Safe Drinking Water and the Clean Water Act, but also the authority of Congress to continue its historical support of working to meet various water needs. I look forward to working with my colleagues to ensure the people of Perkins County can meet the most basic of needs: access to clean, safe drinking water.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MASTER
SERGEANT GOGUE

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD
OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 3, 1999

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, as I was visiting military facilities in Okinawa a couple of years ago, I had the pleasure of crossing paths with a former student, Arnold Gogue. Years ago, as an administrator at George Washington Senior High School in Guam, I had been acquainted with Arnold's amazing ability to get himself in trouble. This kid was a school teacher's nightmare—a major problem.

Although I could use up all this time to recount anecdotes which I am sure Arnold would rather not discuss, I have decided to talk of how he has made me real proud of his achievements.

After high school, Arnold enlisted with the United States Marine Corps. He reported as a private on May 31, 1977 to the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, California, and completed Recruit Training in August of that year. He later received technical training at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina Court House Bay for MOS 1371 Combat Engineer School.

Upon completion of the basic course on November 8, 1977, Arnold was transferred overseas and was assigned to Charlie Company 3rd Combat Engineer Battalion, 3rd Marine Division, Okinawa, Japan. Promoted to the rank of Private First Class on December 1, 1977 and assigned temporary additional duty with 3rd Battalion 4th Marines as a Combat Engineer, Arnold was then deployed on Operation Quick Jab to Tinian and Saipan.

On March 2, 1978, he was promoted to the rank of Lance Corporal. Assigned temporary

additional duty to 2nd Battalion 4th Marines, he was deployed to Pohang, South Korea. He attended Mountain Warfare School in the Republic of Korea and was selected Marine of the quarter.

Arnold was promoted to the rank of Corporal on July 2, 1978. He was later transferred to Charlie Company, 8th Engineer support battalion, Camp Lejeune, NC, and assigned as 1st Platoon Sergeant. He was assigned temporary additional duty on April 6 to July 11, 1979 to attend Journeyman's Combat Engineer course at Court House Bay, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. He was then selected as Marine NCO of the Quarter.

Promoted to the rank of Sergeant on December 1, 1979, Arnold reenlisted and made a lateral move to MOS 2111. He was assigned temporary additional duty on February 28 to April 1, 1980 to attend the Basic Small Arms repair course. Afterwards, he was transferred to Marine Barracks, Guam on June 1980 as a Small Arms Repairman.

On July 22, 1982, he was transferred to Headquarter's Battery, 2nd Battalion, 10th Marines, 2nd Marine Division, and served as the NCOIC. He was promoted to the rank of Staff Sergeant on July 1, 1983 and assigned as the Ordnance Chief. While in this capacity, he was deployed on two different occasions to Fort Bragg, North Carolina for regimental exercises.

He was then transferred to the 3rd Maintenance Battalion, 3rd Force Service Support Group on September 17, 1984 and assigned as Quality Control Senior Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge. He was given temporary additional duty on January 24 to May 30, 1985 to Brigade Service Support Group-9, Operation Team Spirit and, once again deployed to Pohang, Korea—this time as the Maintenance Chief.

On October 6, 1985, Arnold served as an Instructor at the USMC Admin Detachment, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland. He attended the Instructor Training course and attained the level of Senior Instructor. He was then transferred to the 2nd battalion, 12th Marines, 3rd Marine Division on May, 1988, as the Ordnance Chief, and later moved to Bravo Company, Marine Corps Logistic Base, Albany, GA on July 26, 1989 as a Quality Control Inspector and Reserve Technical Assist Team.

Promoted to the rank of Gunnery Sergeant on Aug. 1, 1991, he was transferred to the Ordnance Maintenance Company, Brigade Service Support Group-1 Marine Corps Air Station, Kaneohe Bay, HI on Feb. 17, 1992 as the Ordnance Chief. He was assigned temporary additional duty on September 5 to October 17, 1994 to attend the Ordnance Chief Course at Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD. He was then transferred to the 3rd Maintenance Battalion, 3rd Force Service Support Group-1 on November 28, 1994 as Infantry weapons repair shop chief. On May, 1995 he was reassigned to the Maintenance Management Section and on November, 1996 assigned again as the Infantry weapons repair shop chief.

Arnold was promoted to his present rank of Master Sergeant on June 1, 1997. He served as the OIC (Officer in Charge) for the Infantry Weapons Repair shop. On May, 1998 he was assigned to Ordnance Company as Ordnance

Chief and on November, 1998 reassigned back to the Infantry weapons shop and OIC.

During his service with the Marine Corps, Arnold was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal (MSM), the Marine Corps Commendation medal, and the Marine Corps Achievement medal.

Wherever they happened to be stationed Master Sergeant Gogue and his wife, Rita, have always promoted island culture. They coordinated Liberation day festivities, promotion and farewell parties, christenings, and novenas. The Gogues opened their homes, shared their hospitality and welcomed families in the traditional Chamorro fashion.

Master Sergeant Gogue is slated to retire from the United States Marine Corps this month. Although Arnold's well-earned break would be a loss to the military community in Okinawa, his eventual return to the island of Guam would be most welcome. I am sure that, as a resident of Sinajana, he would be most active and productive.

I have always considered myself an educator—holding the teaching profession with high regard. It is ironic that after working within the Guam school system and the University of Guam for over 20 years in what I consider a most honorable profession, I never earned the title "Honorable ROBERT UNDERWOOD" until I was elected to public office. However, I am sure my colleagues in the teaching profession will agree that the true measure of honor in our chosen field would be the accomplishments of our students.

Students, like Arnold Gogue, have, over the years, made me proud to have been a teacher. I commend him for his achievements and congratulate him on his retirement. On behalf of the people of Guam and the many families that he and his wife have assisted while in the Marine Corps, I convey my appreciation for their share in promoting Chamorro culture and values. Si Yu'os Ma'ase' Arnold and Rita.

GOOD LUCK TO THE LADY TIGERS
OF MANSFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

HON. MARTIN FROST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 3, 1999

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a group of tremendous student athletes from a great school that I am pleased to represent in Congress. I want to recognize the Lady Tigers of Mansfield High School, who have advanced for the first time ever to the Texas girls basketball state championship tournament in Austin. The Lady Tigers will take on Dallas Bryan Adams on Friday for the right to move onto the championship game on Saturday.

The Lady Tigers have electrified everyone in the town of Mansfield and throughout North Texas in their path to the championship tournament. It seems you can't pick up a newspaper in my district without reading about how the community is rallying around the Lady Tigers. This past Saturday in the regional final, the Mansfield team used their stifling defense and solid depth to upset the number one team in Texas and the entire country, the Copperas Cove Lady Bulldogs.

I want to take this opportunity to thank Mansfield coach Samantha Morrow and the courageous Mansfield student athletes for giving so much excitement to everyone in the 24th Congressional District. Through your example you've inspired younger female athletes in your community. Hopefully this will be the first of many trips to the state championship for the Mansfield Lady Tigers.

Good luck Lady Tigers, we will all be rooting for you to bring home the state championship this weekend. But whatever the result, you already have our gratitude for an inspiring and exciting season.

CHARITABLE GIVING INCENTIVES

HON. MARK E. SOUDER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 3, 1999

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, today I am reintroducing the "Giving Incentive and Volunteer Encouragement Act", the GIVE Act, to provide an increased incentive for charitable giving. The vast majority of Americans agree that charitable organizations and the nonprofit sector are more efficient and effective in the use of donations than the federal government is with additional tax revenue. The goal is to decrease the cost of giving and allow more Americans to give more generously to those charities they feel are making the greatest impact in the lives of their neighbors and communities. In addition to increasing the power of charitable donations, the bill increases flexibility, once again provides lower income taxpayers the opportunity to deduct charitable deductions, and the bill would eliminate the cap on charitable giving which hinders additional giving by those most able to give. Specifically, the legislation would:

Allow individuals to deduct 120% of the value of their charitable donations.—This will encourage additional giving to private organizations and increase the total amount of charitable giving. Experts agree that the key factors in determining the amount of charitable giving are income and price. This provision will increase charitable giving by decreasing the effective cost to the giver.

Allow non-itemizers who give more than \$1,000 to charity (or \$2,000 filing jointly) to deduct their donations.—There's simply no reason why the government should encourage philanthropy only among the better-off. Before the 1986 tax bill, all taxpayers were able to deduct their charitable donations, not just those who make enough to itemize deductions. Restoring this provision to the tax code will empower everyone, not merely people of means, to give back to their community through charitable donations.

Exclude charitable giving from the overall limitation on itemized deductions.—By reducing allowable deductions to 3% of the taxpayer's income over \$100,000, the 1990 tax bill placed unnecessary hurdles in front of those taxpayers most able to give. A person in need doesn't care what his benefactor's tax bracket is, and neither should the government.

Extend the deadline for making charitable donations until April 15.—Most taxpayers take

note of allowable deductions only when they fill out their tax returns. They often realize, in retrospect, that they could have given more to charity in the previous year. Current law already allows deductions for contributions to IRA's up until filing time. By extending similar treatment to charitable contributions, we can (1) assist taxpayers' planning, (2) increase the incentive for taxpayers facing penalties for underwithholding, and (3) help advertise the value of the charitable giving tax incentive. We can also encourage those whose giving is curtailed at the end of the year by the holiday cash crunch.

I am grateful for my twenty colleagues which have joined me as original cosponsors and invite other members to join me by cosponsoring this important incentive for increased charitable giving and to allow more Americans the privilege of contributing greater to charity. We must continue to encourage the tremendous charitable efforts which enrich our communities and improve our society while providing significant tax relief for American taxpayers.

TRIBUTE TO RETIRING MARIES COUNTY COLLECTOR EUGENE HOLLIS

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 3, 1999

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that a distinguished government career is coming to an end in Missouri. The Honorable Eugene Hollis, Maries County Collector, is retiring after serving the citizens of Maries County for 52 years.

Mr. Hollis served in the Navy during World War II, where he performed as a landing boat coxswain in the Pacific campaign. The highlight of his military service was leading the landing boats during the amphibious assault against Okinawa.

After the war, Mr. Hollis returned to Missouri. He was elected Maries County Treasurer in 1946, and served in that post until 1954. Mr. Hollis was elected Maries County Collector in 1954, serving from January 1, 1955 until his retirement on March 1, 1999.

Mr. Hollis married the former Lucille Woody on August 2, 1947. Mrs. Hollis was instrumental to Eugene's success in elected office with her active participation in his election campaign, service as a democratic committee member, and her involvement in civic organizations.

Mr. Hollis also serves his community during his free hours. He remains active in the VFW and the American Legion, an organization he has been a member of for over 50 years. He is a past President of the Maries County Fair Board, which he currently serves as gate chairman. Mr. Hollis is also the past President of the Missouri Collectors Association and a member of the Legislature Co-Chairman Collectors Association.

Mr. Speaker, Eugene Hollis served the people of Maries County for 52 years with pride and integrity. I know the Members of the House will join me in extending our heartfelt

gratitude and best wishes in the years ahead to Eugene and his family.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ENDANGERED SPECIES RECOVERY ACT OF 1999

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 3, 1999

Mr. GEORGIE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I and 67 co-sponsors, are reintroducing the Endangered Species Recovery Act of 1999. Similar to legislation I sponsored in the last Congress, the goal of this bill is to recover and delist endangered and threatened species. This was the original intent of the law, but it has not been the outcome. It is time the original goals were met.

When the ESA was first enacted in 1973, stopping extinction seemed pretty straightforward. DDT was wiping out our nation's symbol, the bald eagle. Most species of the great whales had been hunted to near extinction. Foreign species like the African elephant were bordering on destruction after more than a century of uncontrolled commercial hunting. Congress responded, passing legislation to provide for the conservation and protection of endangered species.

Unfortunately, resolving today's threats to imperiled species are not as simple as banning DDT or stopping the trade in elephant ivory. It is unlikely the ESA's authors could have foreseen the far more complicated environment which now exists where the preservation of habitat needed for species survival and recovery must constantly be balanced against the growing demands of development and urban sprawl.

As a result, instead of recovering species and moving them off the endangered list, the law does little more than maintain animal populations in their devastated state in perpetuity or, at best, slow the inexorable slide towards extinction. Recovering endangered species and removing them from the list should be the ESA's real goals, but we have had very little success because federal agencies consistently allow activities to occur that undermine the recovery of the very species we are "protecting."

In fact, while the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service spend tens of millions of tax dollars every year to recover species, they spend even more approving scientifically indefensible conservation plans and permits that are not consistent with—and in some cases actually undermine—their recovery of the same species they are trying to recover. That is the main reason why, a quarter of a century after the enactment of the ESA, we have moved only a handful of species off the endangered list.

This bill will amend the ESA to fix the fundamental flaw in the Act by requiring that incidental take permits, habitat conservation plans, and federal actions to be consistent with recovery. This is the only way we will recover species, get them off the list, and get landowners out from under lifelong regulatory control.